

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims, AMEND claims, and ADD new claims, in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A connector comprising:
a housing; and
multiple pairs of signal contacts, each two signal contacts that are paired with each other being arranged side by side at a distance in the longitudinal direction of the housing, the multiple pairs of signal contact being arranged so as to form multiple arrays arranged side by side in the transverse direction of the housing, each of the multiple pairs of signal contacts that have an identical length being designed for balanced transmission; and
panel-shaped ground contacts provided between respective, neighboring pairs of the multiple pairs of signal contact in each of the multiple arrays, each of the panel-shaped ground contacts being of a size sufficient to shield the multiple pairs of signal contacts from each neighboring pair and being provided commonly to the multiple arrays arranged side by side in the transverse direction of the housing.
2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
the multiple pairs of signal contacts are of a surface mounting type, having respective bent ends in contact with a corresponding pads on a substrate; and
the bent ends of all the multiple pairs of signal contacts extend in parallel with one another.
3. (CANCELED)
4. (CANCELED)
5. (CANCELED)

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The connector as claimed in claim ~~3~~ 1, further comprising an array intermediate ground contact between each two neighboring arrays of the multiple pairs of signal contacts.

7. (ORIGINAL) The connector as claimed in claim 6, wherein:
the array intermediate ground contact has an exposed flat panel part in the housing; and
the length of the housing in the longitudinal direction is greater than the distance between each pair of signal contacts.

8. (ORIGINAL) The connector as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a shielding layer that is formed on the exterior of the housing.

9. (CANCELED)

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A connector₁ comprising:
signal contacts ~~that are~~ arranged in two arrays and of a common length; and
panel-shaped ground contacts that are commonly provided in the two arrays and that
divide each array of signal contacts into multiple pairs, the multiple pairs of signal contacts being adjacent to one another ~~over~~ throughout the entire common length thereof.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The connector as claimed in claim 10, wherein
substrate contact parts of the multiple pairs of signal contacts₁ arranged in one of the two arrays,
extend ~~in the~~ an opposite direction from substrate contact parts of the multiples pairs of signal
contacts arranged in the other one of the two arrays.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The connector as claimed in claim 10, wherein
substrate contact parts of the multiple pairs of signal contacts₁ arranged in one of the two arrays,
face substrate contact parts of the multiple pairs of signal contacts arranged in the other one of
the two arrays, all the substrate contact parts extending in the same direction.

13. (ORIGINAL) The connector as claimed in claim 10, wherein a pair of signal
contacts arranged in one of the two arrays and a pair of signal contacts arranged in the other
one of the two arrays exist between each two neighboring ground contacts.

14. (ORIGINAL) The connector as claimed in claim 10, wherein a pair of signal contacts arranged in one of the two arrays and a pair of signal contacts arranged in the other array that faces the one of the two arrays via an insulating member exist between each two neighboring ground contacts.

15. (ORIGINAL) The connector as claimed in claim 10, wherein a pair of signal contacts arranged in one of the two arrays and a pair of signal contacts arranged in the other array that faces the one of the two arrays via a space exist between each two neighboring ground contacts.

16. (CANCELED)

17. (ORIGINAL) The connector as claimed in claim 10, wherein each of the ground contacts is provided across both two arrays, and has top ends facing each other.

18. (ORIGINAL) The connector as claimed in claim 10, wherein:
each of the ground contacts has a pair of contact parts;
one of the pair of contact parts is aligned with substrate contact parts of the multiple pairs of signal contacts arranged in one of the two arrays; and
the other one of the pair of contact parts is aligned with substrate contact parts of the multiple pairs of signal contacts arranged in the other one of the two arrays.

19. (ORIGINAL) The connector as claimed in claim 10, wherein parts of the signal contacts to be connected to a mating connector extend in a direction perpendicular to parts of the signal contacts to be connected to a substrate.

20. (ORIGINAL) The connector as claimed in claim 10, wherein parts of the signal contacts to be connected to a mating connector extend in the opposite direction from parts of the signal contacts to be connected to a substrate.

21. (ORIGINAL) The connector as claimed in claim 10, wherein the signal contacts arranged in the two arrays are aligned at intervals in the longitudinal direction of the connector.

22. (ORIGINAL) The connector as claimed in claim 10, further comprising other signal contacts that are provided in each array,
the other signal contacts in each array are arranged at intervals, without the ground contacts being interposed among the other signal contacts.

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic device comprising:

a wiring substrate; and

a connector that is mounted to the wiring substrate, the connector comprising:

a housing; ~~and,~~

multiple pairs of signal contacts, each two signal contacts that are paired with each other being arranged side by side at a distance in the longitudinal direction of the housing, the multiple pairs of signal contacts being arranged so as to form multiple arrays, arranged side by side in the transverse direction of the housing, each of the multiple pairs of signal contacts that have an identical length being designed for balanced transmission, and

panel-shaped ground contacts provided between respective, neighboring pairs of the multiple pairs of signal contacts in each of the multiple arrays, each of the panel-shaped ground contacts being large enough to shield the multiple pairs of signal contacts from each neighboring pair and being provided commonly to the multiple arrays arranged side by side in the transverse direction of the housing.

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic device comprising:

a wiring substrate; and

a connector that is mounted to the wiring substrate, the connector comprising:

signal contacts ~~that are~~ arranged in two arrays~~[[:]]~~ and of a common length,

panel-shaped ground contacts that are commonly provided to the two arrays and
~~that divide each array of signal contacts into multiple pairs, and~~

the multiple pairs of signal contacts being adjacent to one another ~~over the entire~~
throughout the common lengths thereof.